

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 18, 2012

Richmond Campus (Rm C136) and Metropolitan Water District (LA)
10 am to 3 pm

Call-in phone number: (866) -764-3180 Code: 5593134#

1. Welcome

Ken

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

Attendees:

Richmond

Ken Osborn*

Calvin Liu*

Aida Dente

Bill Draper

Yun Huang

Dave Mazzera

Antoine Chamsi

Nirmal Saini

Pamela Schemmer*

Dave Sandusky*

Southern California

Socorro Baldonado*

Lee Yoo

Anny Lau

Lily Sanchez

Cindy Bamfield*

Houri Mandjikian

Eileen Wong

Gilda Neshvad

Via Phone

Mark Banuelos*

*= ELTAC Member

2. Minutes of the last ELTAC Meeting

Ken

February meeting's minutes were reviewed. It was noted that the So. Cal members were not listed. The minutes will be corrected to reflect their attendance prior to posting.

Motion: Approve February meeting minutes as amended. Approved-unanimous

3. Announcements, Current Vacancies

CDPH

George Kulasingham's position has been vacant since January. DPH is now going to fill it. Staff will update the position information and advertise the opening. It will take at least 2 months to fill, since requirements such as testing need to be fulfilled. It is a Research Scientist/Supervisor 2 level position (requires PhD).

Two other positions that had been "loaned" to other departments are to come back into ELAP, making the department up to full staff for this fiscal year.

Retired annuitants will be let go at the end of August. IT support, currently being supplied locally by a retired annuitant will be supplied by staff in Sacramento.

4. PCB Hold Times

Pam

The holding time listed [currently] in 40 CFR Part 122 and 136 via the 2007 MUR for drinking waters and Clean Water Act is 1 year to extraction from sampling, and 1 year from extraction to analysis. The current version of SW-846 Chapter 4 Organics lists a holding time of 'none' for PCBs and Dioxins for waters and soils. This Chapter was updated in 2007, with Update IV. Will CA accept 1 year from sampling to extraction for soils and waters, using 40 CFR as precedence?

Test America is doing a survey of the states for what they will accept. MICE recommends at least use 40 day hold from extraction to analysis. Changing the hold time listed in SW-846 Update IV would require a change in regulation, since only Update III is promulgated.

Dave M., Fred C. and Aida D. will conference with DTSC to try to work around the issue.

How does a CA lab get NELAC accreditation for Update IV without going to another state for accreditation?

5. MRL for Fluoride

Ken

There isn't a promulgated MRL for Fluoride. UCMR methods require a more onerous LCMRL process to compute the MRL for Fluoride. Going forward, this appears to be what is going to be required for state certification. Running a RL standard with each batch is not currently required for EPA 300.0. CFR requires running an RL with samples for disinfection byproducts. Labs may still use their own MDL SOP.

6. NELAC updates

CDPH

DPH has been audited in June for TNI, but hasn't received the report yet.

Travel requests for going to TNI meetings haven't been approved yet, since the next meeting is out of state. Until then, individual trip requests will have to be made. A long lead time is required for these, though.

7. PT updates

CDPH

No update available since Fred C. is out of the office.

8. Draft regulations

CDPH

DPH staff is meeting tomorrow with Cathy Ewing and Dave Spath for Program package review. Final review/read is expected to be completed by the end of August. ELTAC will get a look prior to posting.

Fee regulations and alternatives still taking a while. May or may not be ready by next ELTAC meeting for discussion. Noted that the two packages are separate, since it was felt that the Program package could be finished sooner if it wasn't tied to the Fee package.

9. ELAP Budget Issues

CDPH

Current numbers (not final): \$2.7 million YTD revenue, with budget for \$2.9M. \$2M actual expenditures, \$2.2M expected. So, a slight net positive for the fiscal year - \$300,000, at this point.

Current positive reserve will be used to fill George Kulasingham's position, and bring back 2 "loaned" positions.

There is an effort being made to work on improving invoicing. Specifically, the department is going after labs that owe on past year's invoices. It is thought that breaking the invoices down into separate statements for current and past accreditation cycles will result in more success.

10. Officers/Elections

Ken

Gerry Guibert has rolled off. Not sure if his replacement has been approved yet.

Mark Banuelous is not sure if he is continued as a member or not. He submitted his resignation after leaving his water utility post, but it was never confirmed. Ken O. Will count Mark as a voting member and assign him to the "member of the public" category.

Persons interested in joining ELTAC should send their resume and statement of interest to Fred C.

There was a discussion about the makeup of ELTAC vs Bylaw requirements that members represent specific segments of ELAP customers. Ken will send out a copy of the Bylaws for people to suggest changes in how the membership is distributed.

11. Other questions from ELTAC members

Checklists for assessments are on the ELTAC page and are not endorsed officially by DPH. They are currently just guidelines that can help a laboratory in determining if they are taking into account all the method requirements. Volunteers to update them are welcome.

ELAP uses their own internal checklists.

Update for MUR guidance for what version of Standard Methods are acceptable for drinking water, is in process. Labs will get sent a copy of the final guidance and it will be posted. Since Clean Water Act and Drinking Water Act have separate requirements, Waste water will have a different MUR.

MPN reading required reporting limit <2 or <1.8 ? Different editions of Standard Methods have different requirements. It seems odd to have a reporting limit to 2 significant figures.

200.8 collision cell allowed in MUR for waste water, but not for drinking water still.

12. Next meeting

Ken

November date TBD. Ken will propose dates via Doodle. Tuesday or Wednesday are the preferred days.

Meeting Adjourned 11:56 am

